Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please delete paragraph [16] at pages 5-6 and replace with the following paragraph [16]:

-- [16] Generally, a call to a directory 209 will typically include at least two components: an operation and one or more attributes to be employed in the operation. More particularly, the operation defines the action to be taken by the directory access server 205. For example, the operation may be a request to retrieve information previously stored in the directory. Alternately, the operation maybe a request to add information to the directory, or it may be a request to delete information already stored in the directory. Still further, a call may be a request to modify information stored in the directory. Thus, when the directory access server 205 receives a call from a client computer 203, the directory access server 205 then retrieves, adds, modifies, or deletes information in the directory 209 based upon the operation requested in the call. --

Please delete paragraph [22] at page 8 and replace with the following paragraph [22]:

-- [22] First, in step 301, the transaction monitor ~~209~~211 monitors each call from a client computer 203 to the directory access server 205. For example, if the transaction monitor ~~209~~211 is implemented within a UNIX-based operating environment as discussed above, the operation of the transaction monitor ~~209~~211 may be invoked vie the "inetd" operation. As is known in the art, the "inetd" operation is a UNIX system process that can be configured to listen on a specified port number via a specified protocol, and then to invoke a program each time an event is posted to the port on which the "inetd" operation is listening. With electronic directory networks, port number 389 conventionally is used as the port number for the directory access server 205. Thus, with this conventional port configuration, the "inetd" operation may be employed by the invention to listen on port number 389 for, e.g., transmission control protocol (TCP) connection requests.

Please delete paragraph [23] at page 9 and replace with the following paragraph [23]:

-- [23] When the "inetd" operation of the transaction monitor 209211 detects a call (e.g., a TCP connection request) on this port that is intended for the directory access server 205 in step 301, the transaction monitor 209211 creates a monitoring process for the call in step 303. Next, the monitoring process initiates a connection to the directory access server 205 in step 305, in order to relay the call to the directory access server 205 if the call is determined to comply with the attribute rules for the directory. The monitoring process then monitors communications for the client computers 203 directed and intended for the directory access server 205.--

Please delete paragraph [24] at page 9 and replace with the following paragraph [24]:

-- [24] It should be noted that, for some embodiments of the invention, the transaction monitor 209211 preferably creates a monitoring process for each call to the directory access server 205. Thus, with the above-described embodiments of the invention employing a UNIX-based operating environment, for each received connection request, the "inetd" operation will accept the connection, fork, and execute a monitoring process by passing the monitoring process both a user-specified command-line string and the socket on which the connection request was received.